

Plan fund cut sparks uproar in corp; Cong rejects LDF's revision demand

Mayor says Union government grants yet to be received, will be able to maintain a balance

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

A HUGE reduction in the plan allocation for Kochi corporation — around ₹110 crore — in the state budget for financial year 2026-27 led to an uproar by the CPM-led opposition in the council on Monday.

A resolution moved by LDF councillors K J Basil and Elizabeth Teacher, demanding the state government revise the reduced plan fund allocation, sparked a debate. However, it was rejected by the Congress-led council. The resolution was moved after the development fund was reduced to ₹23.67 crore from ₹133.34 crore, resulting in a reduction of ₹109.67 crore from last year.

“The matter should not be politicised. ₹23.67 crore is not enough to carry out the development projects in the city, and it will affect all 76 divisions in

₹109.67 cr reduction

■ A resolution moved by LDF councillors demanded the state government revise the reduced plan fund allocation

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the local body. The state government's reduction in the plan allocation must be reversed. It is incorrect to claim that the loss can simply be compensated through the finance commission grant,” said V A Sreejith, the leader of the opposition.

At the same time, Mayor V K Minimol argued that with Un-

ion government grants yet to be received, the corporation would be able to maintain a balance.

“We expect to receive around ₹168 crore in grants. Transport and waterlogging are our top priorities. The amount we receive will be utilised to resolve such issues, and ₹50 lakh will be allocated to all divisions for

the same,” she said.

BJP councillors too demanded that the resolution be passed, demanding the state government restore the reduced plan fund allocation.

However, following the debate, the council, through voting, decided to reject the resolution and write to the chief minister and the state government on increasing the amount. The mayor had earlier written to the chief minister, expressing concerns over the reduced plan fund allocation.

Meanwhile, V P Chandran, the councillor representing Vyttila division, urged the local body to focus on revenue generation to increase its own funds.

“We need to ensure proper tax collection in the city. The move to issue municipal bonds and green bonds can help increase the funds,” he said.



THREE ‘UNDERCOVER’

Pedestrians sharing an umbrella as they cross a rain-soaked road amid an evening shower at Jos Junction on Monday night | T P SOORAJ

Minor alleges assault by four schoolmates

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

A 16-year-old student has lodged a police complaint on Monday alleging that he was assaulted by four fellow students near Bright School at Valakom in Ernakulam following a previous verbal altercation.

Based on the complaint, the Muvattupuzha police have registered a case against the four students under various sections of BNS.

According to the FIR, the incident occurred around 4.30 pm on July 17 in a lane near Bright School, close to St Stephen HSS, Valakom.

The complainant alleged that the students stopped him on the way, verbally abused him and physically assaulted him by punching on his face and kicking in stomach. He further alleged that the four of them threatened him while he was leaving the spot. The police have identified the students, all natives of Valakom.



Chamber of Commerce hosts interactive session

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THE Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry organised an interactive session titled “When Success isn’t Enough” featuring ISKCON convener and motivational speaker Nityanand Charan Das.

In his address, Nityanand Charan emphasised that while success is universally sought after, the ultimate goal of life is happiness — a state rooted in inner peace and a strong spir-

itual foundation. Through humour, engaging stories, and practical examples, he shared five simple mantras for happiness — serve selflessly, practise gratitude, focus on needs rather than wants, avoid hurting others, and stay connected to the divine.

Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Rajkumar Gupta delivered the presidential address, while Chirag J Shah proposed the vote of thanks.

41-year-old police officer reported missing, search on

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

A 41-year-old civil police officer attached to the Vadakkekara police station has been reported missing. The missing officer is Anjith, a native of Kuzhupilly. According to police, he left his residence at Kuzhupilly around 9am on Saturday and failed to return, following which his wife filed a missing complaint with the M-nambam police.

Police have registered a case and launched an investigation to trace him. During the probe, officers found that Anjith had travelled towards Kodungallur region. Though his mobile phone was switched off for most of the day, he reportedly turned it on briefly to inform his family that he was safe and would return home.

Preliminary investigation indicates that Anjith had left home following a dispute. Police said he had left home on previous occasions after family disagreements but had returned shortly thereafter. Search efforts are continuing.

3 held for assaulting youths in Thrikkakara

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THRIKKAKARA police on Sunday arrested three persons accused of assaulting three youths at NGO Quarters junction in Kakkannad in the early hours of the day. The accused were apprehended while returning from Kozhikode, where they had allegedly gone after the incident.

The arrested have been identified as Shefin of Kalamassery, Fahad of Pookkattupady, and Videesh, who is from Kozhikode. According to the po-

Verbal row turned violent

The incident occurred around 2 am after a verbal altercation between the occupants of a car and three youths walking along the road escalated into violence

lice, Shefin, the first accused, is trained in martial arts. Investigators are examining all aspects of the assault. The first and second accused have previous criminal records and are suspected to be associates of gangsters.

The incident occurred around 2 am after a verbal altercation between the occupants of a car and three youths walking along the road escalated into violence. The accused allegedly assaulted the victims before fleeing the scene.

The injured were identified as Muhammed Shafi, Nizam and Praveen Kumar, all residents of Vazhakkala. One of them suffered critical head injuries and is under treatment.

Thrakkara police then launched an investigation, analysing CCTV footage and other evidence.

EXPRESS READ

KUFOS holds marine awareness event

Kochi: The department of marine biosciences at KUFOS on Monday organised Blue Horizon, a marine awareness and outreach programme for school students. The programme provided higher secondary students of Vidyodaya School, Thevakkal, with an exposure to the field of marine biology. The programme included an introduction to the marine biology laboratories, career guidance sessions on marine science courses, research opportunities, and career prospects.

Missing girl found in Kanyakumari

Kochi: The 16-year-old girl who went missing from Edathala in Aluva last week has been found in Kanyakumari, the police said on Monday, adding that she has been brought back to Kerala. The girl was reported missing on Saturday, following which the Aluva West police launched an investigation. The police eventually tracked her down in Kanyakumari.

Ghanashyama Sandhya tomorrow

Kochi: Ghanashyama Sandhya 2026, a musical event will be organised in Kochi on Wednesday, to celebrate the birthday of singer and music composer M G Radhakrishnan. The event, organised by the M G Radhakrishnan Foundation, will have a musical performance led by composer M G Sreekumar and will honour Ousepachan.

HDFC BANK
We understand your world

Branch office: Retail Agri Remedial, 1st Floor, Choice tower, Manorama Junction, Cochin - 16.
Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Panel (W) Mumbai 400013

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 (SARFAESI ACT, 2002) read with Rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

The undersigned is the Authorized Officer of HDFC Bank Ltd. under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of the power conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act, read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorized Officer has issued Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of the said Act on 24.06.2026 sent through Regd. Post, calling upon the following Borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the demand notice issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to HDFC Bank Ltd. within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest cost, incidental expenses, charges etc. as detailed in the Demand Notice from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents / writings, if any, executed by the said borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to HDFC Bank Ltd. by the said Borrower(s).

Name and address of Borrower / Guarantor / Loan Account Number	Demand Notice with NPA Date	Description of the Property with Boundaries
1) BAIJU JOSEPH S/o Joseph 381, Thekkekkara 3, Thirumary, Mannanthor, Muvattupuzha 686723 (Applicant)	Demand Notice Date : 24.06.2026 Amount outstanding : Rs 1,62,42,932/- (Rupees One crore Sixty two lakh forty two thousand nine hundred and thirty two Only) as on 22/06/2026.	PROPERTY I: All the pieces & parcel 3 Cents of land Sy. No. 130/1 in Nadama Village, Muvattupuzha Taluk in Ernakulam District more fully described in the sale Deed No. 1194/1/2012 of Tripathuntha SRO. Boundaries as per Location Sketch no 1312/14A: East - Property of Gopi, North - Property of Susela, West - Road, South - Property of Railway. Together with buildings and all superstructures, fittings and all rights to roads, ways, and paths.
2) EMY BAIJU , 381, Thekkekkara 3, Thirumary, Mannanthor, Muvattupuzha 686723 (Co-ApPLICANT).		
3) BABU JACOB S/o Jacob, Pujery House, Mannanthor P O Muvattupuzha, 686723. (Guarantor).		

Branch : **KOLENCHERY** Date of NPA : **01.04.2026**

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to HDFC Bank Ltd. as aforesaid, HDFC Bank Ltd. shall proceed against the above secured assets under section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrower(s) are prohibited u/s 13(13) of the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease etc. and encumber in any other way, without the prior written consent of HDFC Bank Ltd. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said act of Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act. Please note that no further notice will be issued.

Place: Ernakulam, Date: 24.06.2026 Sd/- (Authorized Officer), HDFC Bank Ltd

ICICI Bank

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpamangalam Estate, NH Bye pass road, Edappally, Cochin-682024

PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET
[See proviso to rule 8(6)]
Notice for sale of immovable assets

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on 'As is where is', 'As is what is' and 'Whatever there is' as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Mr. Mithin Raj (Borrower) Mrs. Mini Thirumanas (Co-Borrower) Loan Account no. LBCC00005911518	1 BHK House With Land Area 113.4 Sq. Ft and Built-up Area 355.21 Sq. Ft in L-04 Ares (2.9 Cents) in Re Sy No. 1626/1-8 in Rameswaram Village, Kochi Taluk, Ernakulam District, Pin- 682006. Bounded on the North: Corporation Road South: Corporation Concrete Road East: Property of Thankachan West: Property of Yesudas	Rs. 20,03, 723/- (As on July 21, 2026).	Rs. 25,00, 000/- 2,50, 000/-	August 29, 2026, from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM	September 03, 2026, from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

The online auction will be conducted on the website assets.matexauctions.com of our auction agency M/s Matex Technologies Private Ltd. The Mortgages/ Notices are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by September 02, 2026 before 05:00 P.M., else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule. The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpamangalam Estate, NH Bye pass road, Edappally, Cochin- 682024 on or before September 02, 2026 by 05:00 P.M. Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above on or before September 02, 2026 by 05:00 P.M. along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/ are unable to submit his/ her/ their offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpamangalam Estate, NH Bye pass road, Edappally, Cochin- 682024 on or before September 02, 2026 by 05:00 P.M. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of ICICI Bank Limited payable at Cochin.

For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employee number 9655225532 and 8129501439. The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/h4pds

Date : July 28, 2026
Place: Ernakulam

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.

CIN: L55910KL992P0006623, Registered Office - W - 4/ 538A, Manappuram House, P.O. Valapad, Thrissur - 680 567, Kerala, India

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 17/08/2026 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

List of pledges:-

ALLEPPEY, ALAPPUZHA, 0102670730010874, 0880, ALAPUZA MEDICAL COLLEGE JN, 0105290700040604, 0105290730008386, 8387, ALAPUZHAMUHAMMED ROAD, 0105040700074387, 0105040730019401, ARUR, 0103680700047712, 8636, 0103680730015570, CHARUMMOODU, 0106770700039738, 0106770730021455, 1708, CHENGANNUR, 0104790730009120, 9121, CHERTHALA, 0114790700067240, 0114790730016426, 7954, 2623, HARIPAD, 0101420730014000, KATTANAM, 0118850700026607, KAYAMKULAM, 0104740700739208, 0104740730011049, 2385, MANNANCHERY, 0106150700059863, 9922, 0212, 0623, 0106150730014959, MANNAR-PARUMALA, 0122780700025319, 6919, POOCHAKKAL, 0120320700020945, 1343, 0120320730006150, PUNNAPRA, 0103800700054298, 7481, 7489, S.L.PURAM, ALAPPUZHA, 0121970700044469, 4478, 5588, 5590, 0121970730011572, THATTARAMBAM, 0116330730038674, 8675, 0116330750000242, THURAVOOR, 0103760700048918, 0211, 0103760730014623, VELLAKINNAR, 0112500700037577, 7958, ERNAKULAM, ADIVADU, 0115970700014998, 5021, 0115970730004702, 4703, ALINCHUVADU, 0112590700025998, 7929, 0112590730012631, 6900, 6901, 6902, ALLAPRA, 0115640700040429, 0115640730015448, ALLUVA, 0100980700780520, 0684, 2022, 0100980730019093, 9095, 9096, 9099, 9100, ALUVA MARKET, 0112490730006788, ANDIPULLIKAVU, 0105610700056355, 8360, 0105610730012900, 3216, ANGAMALI, 0130510700019503, 0383, ARAKKAPPADY, 0113620700019350, 9455, ASHOKAPURAM, 0128430730008220, ATHANI, 0105630700042655, 0105630730018849, AYYAPPANKAVU, 0130830730018721, BANERJI ROAD, ERNAKULAM, 0106640700032789, 3501, 4068, 4092, 0106640730016996, 6997, CHENGAMANAD, 0113860730010475, CHERAI, 0102060700761245, CHERANALLORE, 0106660700063469, 4435, 4475, 6508, 6778, 6811, 7006, 7008, 7102, 7103, 0106660730022013, 2056, 7240, 0121, CHERUPARAMBATH ROAD KADAVANTHRA, 0103150700037116, 7701, 7702, 0103150730010380, 3948, CHITTUR COCHIN, 0100060707144487, 4607, 4690, 4695, 5230, 5488, 5560, 5601, 6018, 7011, 0100060730023763, 2387, 2396, 2397, CIVIL LINE ROAD VAZHAKKALA, 0115010700038544, 9977, 0063, 0217, 0658, 0880, 0750, 0859, 1445, 1602, 2368, 0115010730017965, EDAKOCHI, 0106510700072234, 3684, 0106510730011582, 3383, 7467, 7468, 7472, 7483, 7486, 7487, EDAPPALLY, 0110750730013699, EDAVANAKKAD, 0121540700026347, ELAMAKKARA, 0132940700016415, 7574, 0132940730010549, FORT KOCHI, 0107270700061472, 0107270730005876, GOVT.HOSPITAL JN.KOTHAMANGALAM, 0131120700026133, KADAVANTHRA, 0127250700033380, 3381, KAKKADASARRY, 0119140730004768, 4862, KALADY, 0110670700027007, 0110670730011074, 1075, 1077, KALAMASSERY, 0105400700747876, 7877, 8453, 8668, 9631, 0064, 0101, 0102, 0375, 0105400730014093, 5444, 5446, 9237, KALLOORKAD, 0115740730008877, KALOOR, 0100850700080837, 8918, 9279, 9368, 9643, 0104, 0479, 0629, 0649, 0100650730020581, 4023, 4530, 4610, 4843, 4977, 7987, 7988, 8139, 8140, 8217, 3260, 3261, 3264, 3265, 3266, KARIMNAGAR, 0116990700025759, 0116990730008053, KATHIRAKUDAVU, 0111020700026896, 0268, 0287, 0288, 0111020730010235, 0367, 0402, KOOTHATTUKULAM, 0129470700028270, KOTHAMANGALAM, 0103690730011450, 2828, KURUPPAMPADI, 0117430730021146, M.C ROAD, MUVATTUPUZHA, 0102960700740540, MALIKAMPEDDIKA, 0113890700039111, 0113890730011651, 9649, 9660, 9661, 9662, 9663, MANJALI, 01152307000304649, 4890, 0115230730007120, 8197, 8212, 0421, MANNUR, 0115140700033116, 3820, 4526, 4633, 5201, 0115140730008988, 1214, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, MOOKANNOOR, 0116920700028520, 8915, 0116920730008868, MUDICKAL, 0129090700023006, 3145, MULLANTHURUTHY, 0107310730011391, 1392, NEELSWARAM MALAYATTOOR, 0116180730008258, NELLIKUZH, 0117940700025055, 5200, 5366, 0117940730006311, NERIAMANGALAM, 0127250700033380, 3381, PALARIVATTAM, 0103610700057087, 8155, 8156, 0103610730014847, 5729, 6648, 9539, PALLIKKARA, 0103900700741790, 1984, 2511, 2558, 0103900730006577, PAMPALAKA, 0114780730006046, 7262, 7275, PATHALAM, 0112030700054068, 4309, 4382, 6561, 7466, 7564, 7910, 0112030730017860, 0013, 1412, 1627, 1757, 6537, 6540, 6541, PATTIMATTOM, 0115960730005870, PERUMBAVOOR, 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